

112211392

Claims

1. A deck support which is adjustable to support a deck of a platform, walkway or ramp at a predetermined elevation, the deck support comprising a prefabricated moveable member arranged to engage a corresponding elongate member for retention and longitudinal movement relative to the elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member having an extension arranged to directly support the deck laterally of the elongate member by contact with an underneath surface of the deck and wherein the prefabricated moveable member is locatable at predetermined longitudinal positions relative to the elongate member.
5
- 10 2. A deck support which is adjustable to support a deck of a platform, walkway or ramp at a predetermined elevation, the deck support comprising a prefabricated moveable member and a corresponding elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member being arranged to engage the elongate member prefabricated moveable member for retention and longitudinal movement relative to the elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member having an extension arranged to directly support the deck laterally of the elongate member by contact with an underneath surface of the deck and wherein the prefabricated moveable member is locatable at predetermined longitudinal positions relative to the elongate member.
15
- 20 3. A deck support as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the prefabricated moveable member comprises a slideable member arranged to slide axially relative to the elongate member.
4. A deck support as claimed in claim 3 wherein the slideable member is a collar, sleeve or other tubular member or partly tubular member having a section corresponding to a partial section of a tubular member.
25
5. A deck support as claimed in claim 3 or claim 4 wherein the slideable member has a hole formed in one or more of its walls arranged for alignment with corresponding longitudinally spaced holes of the elongate member and receipt of a locating pin.
6. A deck support as claimed in claim 3 wherein the deck support comprises a slideable member position at opposite ends of said extension.

112211392

24

7. A deck support as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the extension comprises a support bearer.
8. A deck support as claimed in claim 7 wherein the deck support has two or more support bearers that extend from a common slideable member.
- 5 9. A deck support as claimed in claim 2 wherein a foot extends from an end of the elongate member, the foot being pivotable relative to the elongate member to accommodate for sloping supporting surfaces.
10. A deck support as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the prefabricated moveable member further comprises a handrail support arranged to support one or more prefabricated handrails above the deck.
11. A deck support as claimed in claim 10 wherein the handrail support member is arranged to retain a lower end of a handrail upright of said prefabricated handrail.
12. A deck support as claimed in claims 10 or claim 11 wherein the handrail support member is arranged to receive two adjacent handrail uprights of corresponding adjacent prefabricated handrails.
- 15 13. A deck support as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 12 wherein the handrail support member comprises a collar, sleeve or other tubular member or a partly tubular member having a section corresponding to a partial section of a tubular member.
- 20 14. A deck support as claimed in claim 12 or claim 13 wherein the handrail support member is arranged for inclination of said handrail upright relative to said elongate member, in a plane which is substantially normal to said extension.
15. A deck support as claimed in any one of claims 12 to 14 wherein the extension covers a lower end of said handrail support member to prevent passage of said handrail upright therethrough.

112211392

25

16. A deck support as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 15 further comprising two or more further handrail support members positioned at predetermined positions along the extension.
17. A deck support as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the elongate member comprises a roof support for supporting a roof.
18. A deck support as claimed in claim 17 wherein the elongate member is arranged to slideably receive a roof support upright for abutment of a lower end of the roof support upright against an upper edge of said prefabricated moveable member.
19. A method of erecting a platform, walkway or ramp comprising the steps of:
 - 10 providing a plurality of deck supports which are adjustable to support a deck of a platform, walkway or ramp at a predetermined elevation, each of the deck supports comprising a prefabricated moveable member and a corresponding elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member being arranged to engage the elongate member for retention and longitudinal movement relative to the elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member having an extension arranged to directly support the deck laterally of the elongate member by contact with an underneath surface of the deck and the prefabricated moveable member being locatable at predetermined longitudinal positions relative to the elongate member;
 - 15 adjusting the deck supports by longitudinally moving said prefabricated moveable members relative to corresponding elongate members;
 - 20 positioning and orientating the deck supports so that their extensions are arranged to support corresponding portions of a deck at a desired elevation; and placing the deck onto the extensions so that the extensions support corresponding portions of the deck to form an erected platform, walkway or ramp.
- 25 20. A modular apparatus for constructing a platform, walkway or ramp, said modular apparatus comprising:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

112211392

26

a plurality of prefabricated deck segments arranged to collectively form a deck of a platform, walkway or ramp; and

a plurality of deck supports for supporting the prefabricated deck segments to form said deck; wherein

- 5 each deck support is adjustable to support a deck of a platform, walkway or ramp at a predetermined elevation, each deck support comprising a prefabricated moveable member and a corresponding elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member being arranged to engage the elongate member for retention and longitudinal movement relative to the elongate member, the prefabricated
- 10 prefabricated moveable member having an extension arranged to directly support the deck laterally of the elongate member by contact with an underneath surface of the deck, the prefabricated moveable member being locatable at predetermined longitudinal positions relative to the elongate member.
- 15 21. A modular apparatus as claimed in claim 20 further comprising one or more prefabricated handrails, each prefabricated handrail comprising one or more rails supported by one or more handrail uprights and being arranged for attachment to one or more said deck supports.
- 20 22. A modular apparatus as claimed in claim 20 or claim 21 wherein one or more edges of said prefabricated deck segments are folded to provide adjacent first and second angular regions.
- 25 23. A modular apparatus as claimed in claim 22 wherein, in use, the first angular region extends upwardly, substantially normally of a plane in which the deck segment lies and the second angular region extends downwardly and away from the deck segment to form an enclosed angle with the first angular region of approximately 45°.
24. A platform, walkway or ramp assembly, said assembly comprising:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

112211392

27

- a plurality of deck supports which are each adjustable to support a deck of a platform, walkway or ramp at a predetermined elevation, each deck support comprising a prefabricated moveable member and a corresponding elongate member, the prefabricated moveable member being arranged to engage the elongate member for retention and longitudinal movement relative to the elongate member, the prefabricated member having an extension arranged to directly support the deck laterally of the elongate member by contact with an underneath surface of the deck and the prefabricated moveable member being locatable at predetermined longitudinal positions relative to the elongate member; and
- 5 10 a plurality of prefabricated deck segments;
 wherein said prefabricated deck segments are supported by the extensions of said deck supports to form a platform, walkway or ramp.
25. A platform, walkway or ramp assembly as claimed in claim 24 further comprising one or more prefabricated handrails, each prefabricated handrail comprising one or 15 more rails supported by one or more handrail uprights and being arranged for attachment to one or more said deck supports.